

1 MICHELE BECKWITH  
2 Acting United States Attorney  
3 ROBERT L. VENEMAN-HUGHES  
4 Assistant United States Attorney  
5 2500 Tulare Street, Suite 4401  
6 Fresno, Ca 93721  
7 Telephone: (559) 497-4000  
8 Facsimile: (559) 497-4099

6 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
United States of America

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 || UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Case No: 1:25-CR-00132-JLT-SKO

12 Plaintiff,

STIPULATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES  
AND DEFENDANT REGARDING PRODUCTION  
OF DISCOVERY; PROTECTIVE ORDER RE:  
SAME

14 || v.

## Defendants

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21 general supervisory authority.

22 WHEREAS, the evidence in this case (including but not limited to law enforcement reports,  
23 recorded communications, transcripts of those communications, cell phone extractions, etc.) (the  
24 “discovery”) contains private personal identifying information regarding the defendants and other third  
25 parties, including but not limited to social security numbers, birth dates, residences. etc. as well as  
26 private financial information (such as bank and other financial records) regarding the defendants and  
27 other third parties;

WHEREAS, the discovery in this case also includes communications between charged and uncharged persons, including communications recorded by witnesses and confidential sources, as well as information shared with law enforcement by witnesses and confidential sources;

WHEREAS, the parties desire to avoid (1) the necessity of large-scale redactions, (2) the unauthorized dissemination or distribution to anyone not a party to the court proceedings in this matter, and (3) the risk of harm (financial and/or physical) to the individuals identified in those materials, including by dissemination of the discovery by defendants;

The parties agree that entry of a stipulated protective order is appropriate.

THEREFORE, the below-listed defendants, by and through their undersigned counsel of record (“Defense Counsel”), and the United States of America, by and through Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Veneman-Hughes, hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

1. This Court may enter a protective order pursuant to Rule 16(d) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and its general supervisory authority.

2. This Order pertains to all discovery provided to or made available to Defense Counsel in this case.

3. The discovery is for the exclusive use of defense counsel who are either assigned to or consulting on this case, any investigators, interpreters, experts, paralegals, legal assistants, or law clerks assisting counsel in this case (“the Defense”). The parties agree that the Defense may review the discovery with the defendant or other necessary third parties only in the presence of a member of the Defense and may NOT provide a copy of the discovery to or leave a copy of the discovery with the defendant or other necessary third party. The defendant or other necessary third party may NOT retain copies of the discovery in any form, including but not limited to notes or photographs concerning the contents of the discovery.

4. That if, in the course of preparing the defense counsel in this case, any member of the Defense seeks to leave a copy of any discovery item with any person outside of the Defense (such as to a necessary third-party or the defendant), counsel of record must meet and confer with the government before doing so, in an attempt to reach an agreement on the scope of the disclosure as well as any necessary

1 redactions. If no agreement can be reached, defense counsel shall obtain written authorization from the  
2 Court, after providing the government with an opportunity to be heard and oppose. Any authorization  
3 given by the court shall require that any such person to whom the discovery is disclosed agrees to be  
4 bound by the terms of the Protective Order. That is, that the third party and/or the defendant who is  
5 permitted under separate court order to retain notes, copies, or photographs of the discovery shall be barred  
6 from sharing copies of those items of discovery with anyone other than the Defense.

7 5. The discovery and information therein may be used only in connection with the litigation  
8 of this case and for no other purpose. The discovery is now and will forever remain the property of the  
9 United States of America (“Government”). Defense Counsel will return the discovery to the Government  
10 or alternatively keep it archived within its sole possession at the conclusion of the case.

11 6. Defense Counsel will store the discovery in a secure place and will use reasonable care to  
12 ensure that it is not disclosed to third persons (or even the defendant) in violation of this agreement.

13 7. Defense Counsel shall be responsible for advising the Defendant, employees, and other  
14 members of the defense team, and defense witnesses of the contents of this Stipulation and Order.

15 8. In the event that Defendant substitutes counsel, undersigned Defense Counsel agrees to  
16 return the discovery to the government, or, at the request of government counsel, to forward it to new  
17 counsel after new counsel has confirmed to government counsel in writing his or her agreement to the  
18 terms of this Order.

19 9. This Order applies with equal force to any subsequent cases based upon indictments following  
20 the above case.

21 10. Nothing in this Order shall preclude a party from seeking a more restrictive protective order or  
22 other court order with regard to particular discovery items.

23 IT IS SO STIPULATED.

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1 Dated: July 11, 2025

By: /s/ Eric Kersten  
Eric Kersten  
Attorney for Defendant  
Armando Alfaro

6 Dated: July 11, 2025

MICHELE BECKWITH  
Acting United States Attorney

8 By: /s/ Robert L. Veneman-Hughes  
Robert L. Veneman-Hughes  
9 Assistant U.S. Attorney

11 IT IS SO ORDERED.

12 Dated: July 14, 2025

/s/ Eric P. Groj  
13 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE